

## Lower Mill Meadow and Oak Restoration Area T. 7 S., R. 6 W., Sec. 4 & 5



## Meadow Site Description - Mary's Peak Resource Area, Salem District BLM

Landmark Name: Lower Mill Creek

Legal: 7-6-5 Date: 5-16-02

Slope: 40-60%	Aspect: S	Elev.: 1000	Topo site: mid-slope
Type: wet <u>dry</u>	Aerial: Photo: 98_7_33_21	LUA: AMR	Acres: 70

<u>Description:</u> There are 3 meadows, dry and rocky, with the same spp. As 7-7-9 (Upper Mill Creek) (hairy manzanita, northern buckwheat, dogtail grass (80% cover), silver hairgrass, and much racomitrium moss, **TODI, HYPPE, and ACMIL**. Meadows are surrounded by large groves of oak, conditions vary: some are relatively small and dense, others up to 20" dbh, less dense. Conifer encroachment has been slow, consisting of DF from sapling up to 30" dbh – largest trees in the east, near bndry of private. Large, open DF stand border along bottom (south). Young stand regenerated in early 80's to the west, consisting mostly of dense DF with occasional oak.

<u>Vegetation condition</u>: Variable. Oak in generally good condition, but much overstocking that limits crown spread and indiv. Tree growth. Understory vegetation includes good condition native bunchgrass. Meadows dominated by dogtail grass, conifer encroachment is minor, primarily due to shallow soil.

Oak/hardwood: Large stands of oak.

<u>Conifer invasion</u>: Conifer ranges in size, generally low density. A few trees to remove, and larger trees to remain.

<u>Recommended treatments</u>: Relatively low priority for conifer removal, but work to release oak would be beneficial. Oak thinning would result in a few wide-crowned oak with much more wildlife value. Restore native species by seeding or planting

**<u>Fire reintroduction comments:</u>** . Excellent opportunity to use prescribed fire to maintain vegetation conditions. South and east boundary require fireline. North bounded by road, need some fireline in NE.